

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Manabu Kanesaka, Reg. No. 31,467 on 06/02/2009.

2. The application is amended as follows:

3. Claims:

Claim 6 is replaced with the following:

A parameter tuning device for tuning a large number of parameters in a physical model of a semi-conductor device, comprising:

parameter tuning means for defining chromosomes having a plurality of respective parameters of the physical model for performing simulation of the semiconductor device as a gene and optimizing the plurality of parameters of said physical model using a genetic algorithm based on characteristic measurement data of a test-manufactured semiconductor device, and

said parameter tuning means including a child chromosome generating means, said child chromosome generating means obtaining a center of gravity of a parent chromosome group in a vector space selected in a crossover process in the genetic algorithm;

determining a hyper-polyhedron on a vector space shown by a peak of vectors which extend to each selected parent chromosome from said center of gravity and are respectively multiplied by predetermined times; and

generating a child individual using a uniformly distributed random number so as to be housed inside said hyper-polyhedron and be used in a simulation of a LSI manufacture on an LSI processing line using physical models of transistors.

ALLOWANCE

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 3-7 are considered allowable since when reading the claims in light of the specification, as per MPEP §2111.01, none of the references of record alone or in combination disclose or suggest the combination of limitations specified in independent claims, including an invention of a *parameter tuning device for tuning a large number of parameters in a physical model of a semiconductor device comprising a parameter tuning means for defining chromosomes having a plurality of respective parameters of a physical model for performing simulation of a semiconductor device as a gene* (defined at e.g. ¶ 0001).

Specifically, independent claim 6 discloses optimizing the plurality of parameters of said physical model using a genetic algorithm based on characteristic measurement data of a test-manufactured semiconductor device (defined at e.g. ¶), and determining

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a hyper-polyhedron on a vector space shown by a peak of vectors which extend to each selected parent chromosome from the center of gravity and are respectively multiplied by predetermined times (defined at e.g. ¶); and generating a child individual using a uniformly distributed random number so as to be housed inside said hyper-polyhedron (defined at e.g. ¶).

A practical application of the invention would be manufacturing of an LSIC (defined at e.g. ¶ 0002).

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Correspondence Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KALPANA BHARADWAJ whose telephone number is (571)270-1641. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:30am 5:00 pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Vincent can be reached on (571) 272-3080. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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/Bharadwaj Kalpana/

Examiner, Art Unit 2129

/David R Vincent/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2129